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Holy Bats!

After a series of wet days, mosquitoes loom large in Winnipeggers' minds. But instead of slapping your arm, maybe slap a bat house in your backyard to help attract these insect-munching mammals. See [metroNEWS](#). THINKSTOCK

Tories ahead in cash cache

ELECTION
PCs have more than double the money of the NDP

Manitoba's Opposition Progressive Conservatives are building up a big war chest for next year's election.

The Tories' financial returns, released by Elections Manitoba on Wednesday, show the party more than doubled the governing New Democrats in fundraising last year — raising \$2.1 million to the NDP's \$830,000. It's the widest gap between the two parties in recent years.

The documents also show the Tories have \$1.3 million in total assets, more than double the \$630,000 registered by the NDP.

Tory Leader Brian Pallister,

who took over the helm in 2012 when the party raised less than \$1 million, said Wednesday he has focused on rebuilding constituencies and getting grassroots members engaged in fundraising.

"That work ethic is what I'm trying to instill in our organization at the local level," he said. "You have to be humble enough to be able to go out and ask people for support ... and it's working."

NDP fundraising last year was down about \$200,000 from 2013. No one from the party would comment on the record, but a party official did note one factor was the NDP leadership race, which saw campaigns compete for some of the same donor dollars as the party.

Royce Koop, who teaches political science at the University of Manitoba, said the NDP should be able to raise more money as

\$2.1 million

Amount the Progressive Conservatives raised last year compared to \$830,000 by the NDP.

the election approaches, especially now that Premier Greg Selinger has survived a leadership challenge from within his own ranks.

The Elections Manitoba documents also show the Liberals, who have just one seat, continue to struggle with fundraising. The party has bounced back from a \$120,000 deficit caused by a poor showing in the 2011 election. Their fundraising last year totalled \$116,000 — roughly on par with previous years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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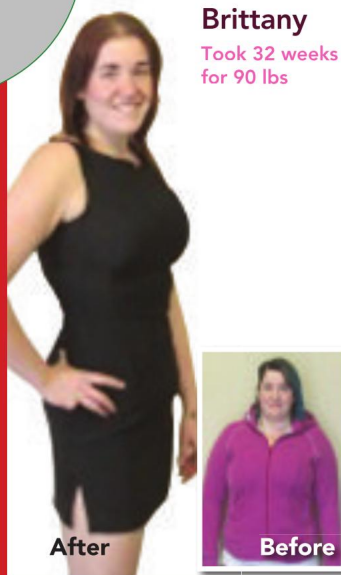
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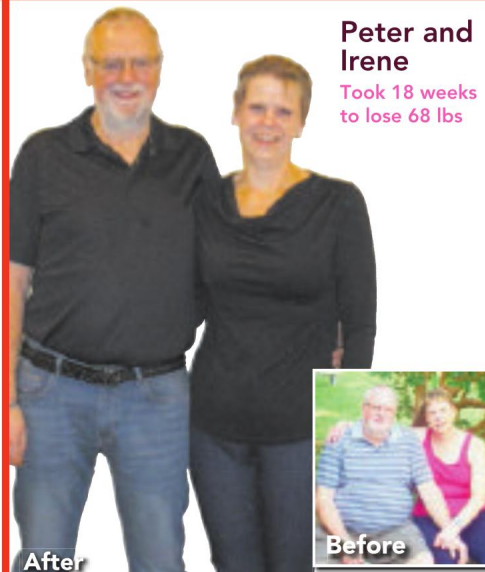
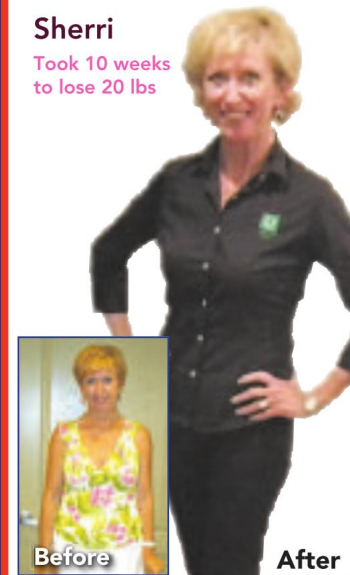
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WEST ALEXANDER

Bannatyne apartment fire was arson: Police

An apartment building that caught fire in the Winnipeg's West Alexander neighbourhood Sunday was an arson, say police.

The fire broke out at about 11:30 a.m. in an older apartment building at 543 Bannatyne Ave. near Kate Street, forcing the closure of Bannatyne and other streets around the fire.

The building was empty and undergoing renovations. Firefighters managed to contain the fire and prevent it from spreading to nearby buildings, but not before the fire did \$2.4 million in damages.

Winnipeg police said Thursday morning the fire was now considered an arson.

Anyone with information into the fire is asked to call 204-986-6813.

METRO
WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS



Firefighters tackle a blaze at an empty apartment building at 543 Bannatyne Ave., Sunday. TED GRANT/FOR METRO

+ BACKGROUND

So Long, Bannatyne by The Guess Who

The apartment block appears to have provided the backdrop for an iconic album cover by the rock group The Guess Who. The album cover was for The Guess Who's 1971 release *So Long, Bannatyne*, which included such songs as *Rain Dance*, *Sour Suite* and *Albert Flasher*.

The group — which was riding a wave of international acclaim at that time — came up with the title because guitarist Kurt Winter had been living in an apartment on Bannatyne and moved out that year.



Investors Group Field, pictured, is the subject of an auditor general investigation into allegations the CFL stadium was poorly planned and over budget. The construction project is also the subject of a lawsuit. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NDP welcomes audit into CFL stadium

CONSTRUCTION

Investors Group Field the subject of lawsuit

Manitoba's governing NDP says it welcomes an auditor general investigation into the construction of Winnipeg's CFL stadium amid allegations it was rushed, poorly planned and over budget.

Premier Greg Selinger said he's not afraid of an audit into the construction of Investors Group Field and defended the project, which is now the sub-

ject of a lawsuit.

"The auditor general is an independent officer. They are completely free to investigate any of these things. We have no problem with that," Selinger said Thursday.

"We're very proud of the building. We think it's making a big contribution to Winnipeg."

The owners of the stadium, which will host the Grey Cup this fall, have filed a lawsuit alleging the architect and builder should be made to pay for extensive repairs it alleges are due to faulty design and construction.

The stadium has been plagued by leaks, insufficient insulation to keep plumbing working in

winter, and poor drainage. It also needed immediate renovations to make it usable for concerts and its press box was unheated.

A construction company, in turn, alleges the owners and the provincial government approved the design without regard for such issues, and alleges the project may have been rushed. None of the allegations put forward by either side has been proven in court.

The stadium, which was initially budgeted to cost \$115 million, cost \$209 million and was completed in 2013.

Manitoba's Opposition has been calling for the auditor general to look into whether the

NDP rushed construction of the stadium and whether the project made good use of tax dollars.

Progressive Conservative Leader Brian Pallister says the government appears to have used the stadium project as a 2011 election campaign prop. Taxpayers are ultimately footing much of the bill and deserve some answers, he said.

"We know that rushing a quarterback can be a really good thing, but rushing a construction project tends not to be," Pallister said.

"What we were asked to invest in is something that we have not yet received."

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WINNIPEG GRENADIERS

WWI soldiers laid to rest in France

Eight Winnipeg Grenadiers have finally been laid to rest in France almost 100 years after their deaths.

The First World War soldiers were buried with military honours at Caix British Cemetery in Caix, France.

Their remains were found in Hallu, France, in 2006 and 2007. Only five of them have been identified so far.

All five of the men who were identified were living in Manitoba when they en-

104

After the Winnipeg Grenadiers received orders to capture the small French village, about 50 of them were killed and another 54 were reported missing.

listed, though four of them were born elsewhere.

Lt. Clifford Abraham Neelands, who was 26, had come from Barrie, Ont.; Lance Sgt. John Oscar Lindell, 33, was born in Sweden; Pte. Lachlan McKinnon, 29, was originally from Scotland; and Pte. Sidney Halliday, 22, was from England.

The fifth, Pte. William Simms, was born in Russell, Man., and was 25 when he died.

CJOB/THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ BACKGROUND

The eight Winnipeg Grenadiers recently laid to rest in France were killed on Aug. 11, 1918 — exactly three months before the war ended.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TRANSIT

More disruptions to service coming

Winnipeg Transit is warning riders the service disruptions caused by a squabble with the union that represents drivers are likely to get worse after the long weekend.

Members of the Amalgamated Transit Union began refusing overtime at the end of last month after union members voted to reject a settlement agreement from the city.

A release from the city Thursday said the service disruptions and delays are expected to get worse starting May 19.

Riders should plan for both late and/or cancelled service on "any number of routes in

+ GET INFO

Winnipeg Transit advises riders to check winnipeg-transit.com or call Tele-BUS or 311 before heading out for the latest information on delays or cancellations.

the coming weeks," the release said.

In an effort to provide customers with service that is as predictable as possible, Winnipeg Transit said it will try to limit cancellations to specific routes.

METRO



BARGING IN CAR MEETS HOUSE Police say no one was seriously injured after a Chevy Malibu crashed through a fence and into the front steps of a home at the corner of Dorchester Avenue and Stafford Street on Thursday afternoon. There was no immediate word on what caused the crash, but streets were slick with rain at the time. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Welcome some bats to your backyard

BAT HOUSES

City's small number of bats threatened by fungal disease

Eva Wasney
For Metro | Winnipeg

Birdhouses are a common sight in Winnipeg backyards, but bat houses are just as elusive as the mysterious mammals they're designed to house.

Yet the man-made roosts

could help the city's small bat population survive white-nose syndrome, caused by a fungal disease affecting bat colonies across Canada.

"If we improve their summer habitat, where they have to raise their babies, that gives us the best hope that their populations might recover," said Craig Willis, associate professor of biology at the University of Winnipeg and the city's leading, well, bat man.

White-nose syndrome, first observed on the East Coast in 2007, kills bats hibernating in the winter. It has wiped out millions of little brown bats in North America and is threaten-

ing to enter Manitoba, according to Willis.

Aside from helping the furry flying mammals, backyard bat houses can also help with insect control.

"They do eat a whole lot of insects," said Willis, adding bats don't munch exclusively on mosquitoes.

Typical bat houses look like a skinny mailbox with an opening at the bottom.

Inside is a series of narrow rows for the bats to climb into and cuddle upside down during the day.

They work best if they're painted a dark colour and are installed as high as a third-

storey window facing the sun.

"You can't really get a bat house too hot in Manitoba. If it can get up to mid 30s in the summertime, that helps their pups grow faster," said Willis.

Even with the perfect conditions, attracting bats to a house is harder than throwing up the bat signal because of Winnipeg's small population, said Willis.

"I've spent time in Regina and Saskatoon, and there are lots of bats colonies in those cities," he said.

"In Winnipeg I would have no idea, but I think we would have very, very few."

POLITICS

Ex-cabinet minister not running again

A Manitoba cabinet minister who resigned his post after calling for Premier Greg Selinger to step aside is not running for re-election.

Stan Struthers was one of five senior ministers who left cabinet in November, saying they had lost confidence in Selinger's leadership. The resignations last fall brought an internal caucus rift into the open and prompted a leadership vote that Selinger barely survived.

But Struthers said the leadership vote, which Selinger won

by 33 votes, didn't play a role in his decision.

"There is no question that I was disappointed at the result of the leadership contest," Struthers said Wednesday.

"I had wished at the time there had been a different outcome, but it is what it is.

"I think with me not running in the next election, that opens the door for someone to step forward and really represent the NDP well in Dauphin."

Struthers was finance minister when the NDP increased the provincial sales tax in 2013,

“(It) opens the door for someone to step forward.”

Stan Struthers

which saw the party slip badly in the polls. He was shuffled out of the portfolio and was municipal-affairs minister when he resigned.

He said he discussed the decision with his family and they decided 21 years was enough.

Struthers said he doesn't know what he'll do next but ruled out running for federal politics.

Two other cabinet ministers who resigned alongside Struthers, former justice minister Andrew Swan and finance minister Jennifer Howard, have already been nominated to run again.

Former cabinet ministers Erin Selby and Theresa Oswald, who challenged Selinger for the leadership, have not said whether they will run again.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Ex-cabinet minister Stan Struthers resigned in November after calling for Premier Greg Selinger to step aside. METRO FILE

New trades centre coming to Red River

EDUCATION

Facility will train 1,000 students a year

Dave Baxter
Metro | Winnipeg

A new trades and technology centre is coming to Red River College, and the province said

they expect it to train up to 1,000 students a year.

"Manitoba is building like never before and jobs in the skilled trades will be in greater demand as our economy expands," said Premier Greg Selinger.

Dignitaries broke ground Thursday on the \$60 million, 100,000 sq. ft. Skilled Trades and Technology Centre, which will be built at the RRC Notre Dame campus,

and funded by the province.

Selinger said the province believes the centre will be a key factor in increasing Manitoba's workforce by 75,000 highly trained people by 2020.

"We want to provide students with the training they need to begin a great career and build their futures right here at home," said Selinger.

The facility will house a new laboratory and shop

space, and classrooms to train students in trades and technologies including carpentry, electrical, heating, ventilating and air conditioning.

It will also support technology in other related industrial sectors, including mechanics and manufacturing.

The province said the centre will be a green building and it will exceed requirements for the Manitoba Green Building Policy.



Dignitaries at Thursday's groundbreaking for the new Skilled Trades and Technology Centre at RRC. DAVE BAXTER/METRO

FIRST NATIONS

Shoal Lake lifts its state of emergency

A reserve under one of Canada's longest boil-water advisories has patched up its aging ferry and is lifting its state of emergency after being cut off from the outside world two weeks ago.

Shoal Lake 40 First Nation declared a state of emergency after the ferry connecting it to the mainland failed a federal inspection at the end of April.

Chief Erwin Redsky says the ferry has been repaired and is back in the water, but only in a limited capacity.

Nonetheless, he said, it's a relief to everyone in the community, especially elders who had been moved when the ferry was pulled out of service.

"They're anxious to get home. A lot of community members are anxiously waiting for the official word," Redsky said Wednesday.

"Any kind of service right now is huge. It's very, very critical that this ferry is allowed to operate, at least on a restricted-load basis, so we're very happy."

The community will be watching closely for leaks and the ferry will have to undergo extensive repairs in the fall, he said.

Shoal Lake 40 was cut off

from the mainland a century ago to build an aqueduct which supplies the city of Winnipeg with fresh water.

The reserve, which straddles the Ontario-Manitoba boundary, has no all-weather road and has been under a boil-water advisory for 17 years.

When the ferry failed to pass its four-year Transport Canada inspection due to a leaky and rusty hull, people in the community had no access to bottled water, groceries or immediate medical attention.

The reserve has been lobbying for years for construction of an all-weather road residents call Freedom Road.

The federal government, Manitoba and Winnipeg have chipped in \$1 million each for a feasibility study, but there are no firm commitments beyond that.

The loss of ferry service was a "wake-up call" for many and highlighted the reserve's vulnerability without a reliable connection to the mainland, Redsky said.

"I think everybody is aware of the long-term solution that needs to be committed to and I think we're on the right track."

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IN BRIEF

Jail for man in ATV crash

A Manitoba man is being sent to jail and will also have to do community service for his role in a fatal ATV crash.

Adam Burdett was recently found guilty of impaired driving in the 2012 crash near Lundar that killed 30-year-old Colin Weir. He was acquitted of the more serious charge of impaired driving causing death.

At his sentencing, Justice Chris Martin said Burdett's

drinking wasn't solely to blame for the crash that probably would have happened anyway.

But he still sentenced Burdett to three weeks behind bars and two years of supervised probation.

The judge suggested part of Burdett's community service could include talking to rural students about the dangers of drinking and driving.

CJOB/THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Drivers not slowing down

ROAD SAFETY

New campaign drives message that roads are workplaces



Shane Gibson
Metro | Winnipeg

On the same day Manitoba's annual Safe Roads campaign kicked off to remind drivers to slow down when passing workers and driving through construction zones, CAA Manitoba said Thursday drivers still aren't getting the message.

Officials from CAA and members of the RCMP staged a scene where a tow truck was pulled over at the side of the Trans-Canada Highway near St. Francois Xavier Wednesday and watched to see how many drivers slowed down and moved over.

Of the 316 drivers that went past, nearly 99 per cent did neither, according to CAA.

"Tow trucks drivers, like



Mayor Brian Bowman speaks at the kickoff for Manitoba's annual Safe Roads campaign in Winnipeg Thursday morning. His message: "Just slow down." SHANE GIBSON/METRO

other emergency workers, deserve a safe space to work," said CAA Manitoba president and CEO Mike Mager, in a release. "We've lobbied for this legislation for six years, but it means nothing if drivers aren't

following the letter of the law."

Legislation passed by the provincial government requires drivers to slow down to 40 km/h when speed limits are under 80 km/h, and down to 60 km/h when the posted speed

limit is higher and to move into the traffic lane farthest from an emergency vehicle whenever and wherever possible.

Failing to do so could earn drivers a \$300 fine and two demerit points.



Safety ... It's not a destination, it's a constant journey of continuous improvement.

Jamie Hall

That's why the Safe Roads campaign — which will see billboards and transit stop ads installed over the next few weeks — remains relevant after 11 years, said Jamie Hall of SAFE Work Manitoba.

"Safety will always be something that we need to focus on," he said at the Safe Roads launch. "It's not a destination, it's a constant journey of continuous improvement."

"I don't think we should ever let our guard down when it comes to workplace safety."

Mayor Brian Bowman also spoke at the campaign's launch and had one simple message.

"Just slow down," he said. "Use caution when passing construction zones, heavy equipment and people that are working in the roadway."

CRIME

Woman flashed on walk in park

Police are looking for a suspect after a woman was flashed while out for a stroll at Assiniboine Park Wednesday night.

The woman called police after a man exposed himself to her while the two crossed paths walking across the footbridge leading into the park at around 5:50 p.m.

The suspect is white, unshaven, in his mid to late twenties, approximately 160 lbs. and 5'7".

He was wearing a dark grey hoodie and wide-leg, baggy, skater-style jeans.

METRO

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CALGARY

Man charged after hurling obscenities

Calgary police have charged a man with hurling vulgarities at a female journalist while, ironically, covering the bad behaviour of hockey fans.

The man, who has not been named, faces a charge of stunting under the Traffic Safety Act.

CBC reporter Meghan Grant says she had been reporting along the Red Mile, a strip of bars and restaurants popular with Calgary Flames fans, the morning after a playoff game.

She was working on a story about poor fan behaviour, including the use of a sexually explicit phrase that has become a trend targeting female reporters in cities across North America. Then, she says, she heard the

line herself.

"All of a sudden somebody pulls up in a truck behind us and yells it at us, which was absolutely stunning given what we were there talking about," Grant says. "We swung around only

in time to see the truck driving away, but we did get the licence plate."

She says police tracked down the alleged heckler and told her

Thursday that the man had been charged.

Police spokeswoman Emma Poole says police have received several complaints about similar harassment. She believes it's the first time officers have laid a charge in such a case.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

“

All of a sudden somebody pulls up in a truck behind us and yells it at us.

CBC reporter Meghan Grant

GUN REGISTRY

Rewriting law sets 'perilous precedent'

An unprecedented Conservative bid to rewrite the law in order to retroactively erase the RCMP's mishandling of gun registry records sets the table for legislated, after-the-fact coverups of far more serious crimes, Canada's information commissioner declared Thursday.

In a new report tabled in Parliament, Suzanne Legault concluded that the practice establishes a "perilous precedent" of rewriting laws — one that could jeopardize the ability of authorities to prosecute electoral fraud or other government scandals.

Legault recommended two months ago that charges be laid against the RCMP for its role in withholding and destroying gun registry data. But instead



Information Commissioner Suzanne Legault
THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

of Justice Minister Peter MacKay moving on the recommendation to lay charges, the Harper government rewrote the law, backdated the changes and buried the amendment in an omnibus budget bill. THE CANADIAN PRESS



INFRASTRUCTURE MR. HOCKEY GETS A BRIDGE Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, left, Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Murray Howe, Gordie Howe's son, announced Thursday that the Detroit River International Crossing, connecting Detroit with Windsor, Ont., will be named the Gordie Howe International Bridge. The 87-year-old Howe, known as "Mr. Hockey," was born in Floral, Sask., and led the Detroit Red Wings to four Stanley Cup championships. PHOTO: DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS; TEXT: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Khadr gets new win with SCOC ruling

Court rejects attempt to declare him an adult offender

The Supreme Court of Canada wasted no time Thursday as it summarily rejected the federal government's bid to have former Guantanamo Bay prisoner Omar Khadr declared an adult offender.

The case centred on whether the eight-year war-crimes sentence he got from a U.S. military commission in 2010 ought to be interpreted as a youth or adult sentence.

The federal government has argued the latter, saying Khadr actually received five concurrent eight-year terms for each of his five war crimes — a conclusion the nine justices rejected in a rare decision from the bench.

"The sentence is under the minimum for an adult sentence," Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin told the court after about 30 minutes of deliberations that followed the end of the hearing.

"We are of the view that a proper interpretation of the relevant legislation does not permit Mr. Khadr's eight-year sentence to be treated as five distinct eight-year sentences to

be served concurrently."

Dennis Edney, one of Khadr's lawyers, said the swiftness of the ruling was a message to the Harper government for wasting taxpayer money on "persecuting my client."

After almost 13 years in custody, Khadr was released on bail last week while he appeals his U.S. conviction, which has drawn fierce criticism from legal and human rights experts.

Khadr was 15 when he threw the grenade that killed U.S. Sgt. Christopher Speer during a firefight in Afghanistan in July 2002.

Several members of the panel challenged Department of Justice lawyer Sharlene Telles-

“

We can't slice and dice the eight years.

Justice Marshall Rothstein

Langdon during her 50-minute oral argument before a packed courtroom.

Justice Rosalie Abella asked Telles-Langdon whether she considers eight years to be a youth sentence. Yes, the lawyer replied.

"Then, isn't that the end of the story?" Abella said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CSIS

Spy agency warns of 'extremist' threat to oil, gas development

Canada's spies are warning the federal government about an "extremist" threat to natural resource development, internal documents show.

"Extremists" have united both in person and online in their opposition to Canadian natural resource projects, according to a September 2014 "threat overview" prepared by CSIS for Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney.

The heavily censored document does not outline specific threats or projects, nor does it single out particular groups. But it lists the threat between sections on terrorist travellers and a

growing anti-Muslim movement advocating violence in Canada.

The CSIS report, obtained under Access to Information law, mirrors strong language in a January 2014 report from the RCMP warning of an "anti-Canadian petroleum movement."

The report, obtained by Greenpeace, said that movement is well-financed and organized, and includes "peaceful activists, militants, and violent extremists."

The RCMP specifically referred to 2013 shale gas protests in New Brunswick, where protesters from the Elsipogtog First Nation clashed with police.

Canada's spies and police have monitored all manner of protests even if those demonstrations remained peaceful.

Meanwhile, activists have expressed concerns that expanded powers for CSIS, contained within the government's anti-terror legislation, Bill C-51, will mean increased monitoring and "disruption" of environmental and First Nations protests.

Craig Forcece, who specializes in national security law and has been a vocal critic of Bill C-51, says violent protests may fall under CSIS's purview. The question for Forcece, however,

Because of the way (the government is) so carelessly using language, or purposefully using language to be very broad and apply to everyone, that's where the danger lays. NDP environment critic Megan Leslie



is how many people fall under CSIS's definition of extremist. "It's not improper, it seems to me, to be concerned about someone who might be pre-

paring a pipe bomb, or might be involved in the sabotage of a pipeline," Forcece said in an interview.

"The question is how broad

the brush stroke is, and that's really difficult to answer."

Torstar News Service requested an interview with Blaney's office, and included specific questions about how the government defines "extremist" activity and what natural resource projects have been threatened by extremists.

"The safety and security of Canadians is of the utmost importance to our government, and we take any threat to the security of Canadians and their livelihood seriously," said Blaney's spokesman, Jeremy Laurin.

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NE052Z115

Soldier says it's not so simple

Cpl. Ashley Turner is a female soldier who has served in the armed forces for 12 years and completed two tours in Afghanistan. She was also deployed on Operation Podium, the army's support for the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. Turner wrote to Metro News after seeing her photo with an article about sexual misconduct in the Canadian military. Her letter follows.

I was very surprised to see my photograph in the May 1 edition of the Metro, and even more surprised to see the article that it was used to illustrate — an article entitled “Military Plagued by Sexualized Culture,” which described the recent report by former Supreme Court justice Marie Deschamps on the misogyny and sexual harassment that is allegedly commonplace in the Canadian Forces.

While I am flattered that my picture was chosen to represent female soldiers in general, I also feel that the immediate impression a reader would get is that it was included to provide an example of a female soldier who has had firsthand experience of the issues discussed in the report. Therefore, I wish to clarify that this is not the case, and that I am not in any way associated with the study in question.

In fact, had I been one of the 700 personnel who were selected to participate in this study, I would have confessed

that the time I have spent in the Canadian military — all 12 years of it — has been a very positive experience, and almost entirely free of the issues described in the article. Perhaps I have been unusually lucky to have worked with excellent male colleagues for the entirety of my career, or perhaps I am one of the “desensitized” women the article mentions. I do admit that crude jokes and swear words are spoken regularly in the military, yet I have never felt offended by them. In my experience, jokes that degrade women are not made any more often than jokes that degrade other groups of people — and, in fact, though the article mentions “references to female genitalia” as a particularly offensive example of such a joke, I can assure you that references to male genitalia are far, far more common. What I find much more offensive and misogynistic than any joke I have heard in the military is the notion that females,

but not males, are somehow ill-equipped to handle this manner of conversing. The joking I have experienced has almost always been good-natured, and when the time has come to get the job done I have never found myself to be treated any less fairly than anyone else, or to be any less accepted by my peers as a result of my gender.

Of course, for both males and females, personal experience in the Canadian Forces will vary, and I am sure that, at times, legitimate harassment does occur. My intent is not to belittle the victims of this harassment, or to suggest that it should not be taken seriously. I simply wish to state that my experience in the Canadian Forces has been very different than the experiences of the female soldiers described in the article, and that the use of my photograph was therefore probably not the most accurate way to illustrate the concept discussed.

Cpl. Ashley Turner



Cpl. Ashley Turner's photograph was published in Metro and other newspapers on May 1 alongside a story about the recent release of a scathing report into military sexual misconduct. She later wrote us to make clear that she should not be seen as “an example of a female soldier who has had firsthand experience of the issues discussed in the report.” METRO

ARMED FORCES

Friendly-fire report shows Kurdish forces ill-prepared to fight

The friendly-fire death of Sgt. Andrew Doiron may have been a tragic mistake, but it serves to illustrate the shaky state of Kurdish forces and just how much additional training they need, defence experts say.

Both the Canadian military and Prime Minister Stephen Harper have gone out of their way to showcase the tenacity and bravery of Peshmerga fighters, who last summer halt-

ed the advance of extremists from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) just outside the city of Erbil.

But details gleaned from heavily censored reports into Doiron's March 6 death indicate the formation, while courageous, amounts to little more than a popular militia, said retired colonel George Petrolekas of the Conference of Defence Associations Institute.



They are not ready for prime time.

Retired colonel George Petrolekas

“They are not ready for prime time,” Petrolekas said. “It calls into question how ready they are for battle and

to take back a place like Mosul,” Iraq's second-largest city.

That means there will be no quick nor easy end to Canada's training mission in Iraq, about which the Harper government has been deliberately vague in terms of the mission's scope, accomplishments and goals.

For example, neither the Conservatives nor National Defence have clearly articulated in public just how many

Peshmerga brigades Canada intends to help train.

That's very much by design, said ex-special forces commander Steve Day, formerly in command of Joint Task Force 2, Canada's elite anti-terrorism unit.

“The cabinet is not tying itself down to a defined end state that's going to shift,” Day said.

“I give them credit for that because I think they got so

burned by Afghanistan, so burned by DND over-promising and under-delivering, that it doesn't make any sense to put down a benchmark.”

During the Kandahar combat mission, the Conservatives were forced in 2008 to set down both military and development goals in order to carry on with the increasingly bloody deployment.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Of all the beverage containers that weren't recycled, how many were yours?

Media mogul leads PQ leadership race

POLITICS

Quebecor majority shareholder is front-runner

The Parti Québécois could begin its Pierre Karl Peladeau-led era this Friday.

Polls suggest the control-

ling shareholder of Quebecor Inc., one of the biggest and most influential media companies in Canada, is the front-runner in the race to succeed Pauline Marois as permanent PQ leader.

Peladeau's opponents are former cabinet ministers Alexandre Cloutier and Martine Ouellet.

The first round of voting began Wednesday and ends

at 5 p.m. eastern Friday. If none of the three gets 50 per cent, a second round of voting with the top two finishers will take place May 20-22.

Much of the campaign has focused on Peladeau's refusal to sell his shares in Quebecor. He has promised to put the shares in a blind trust, a position critics say is inadequate.

Although a political neophyte — he was elected in

April 2014 — Peladeau's influence in Quebec is undeniable.

Quebecor owns some of the biggest media properties in the province such as newspapers, a TV network, book publishers and music distributors. His company is also a major player in cable, Internet and cellphone services.

Peladeau's critics and political opponents say he is

divisive, anti-union and too short-tempered to handle the frustrations and nuances of political life.

But his passionate, public and fervent cries for Quebec sovereignty, coupled with his high profile, have made him a seemingly irresistible candidate for party brass who long desperately to be pioneers of an independent country.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Pierre Karl Peladeau

GRAHAM HUGHES/
THE CANADIAN PRESS

MEDICAL RESEARCH

Paraplegics feel good with stem cells

A small number of paraplegics are now able to feel some sensation after having neural stem cells transplanted into their damaged spinal cords as part of a study, raising hope that the therapy may help restore movement in some paralyzed patients.

Researchers in Zurich, Toronto and Calgary used the experimental treatment in 12 people with injuries to the thoracic region of their spinal cords. The thoracic segments of the spine run roughly in line with the armpits to an area just below the waist.

Within months of having the injections of 20 million human neural stem cells, more than half the patients reported they had areas of restored sensation when tested with light touch, pin pricks or heat.

While the transplants did not bring back the ability for patients to move their legs or control other muscles below the site of their injury, seven of the 12 had "significant improvement

in sensation," said Dr. Michael Fehlings, Krembil chair in Neural Repair and Regeneration at the University Health Network, who led the Toronto arm of the study.



We have now legitimately entered into the era of regenerative neuroscience.

Dr. Michael Fehlings

That recovery of feeling means the stem cells may have partially repaired damage to the spinal cord, suggested Fehlings.

"The implications of what we're doing now is really quite

profound because we have now legitimately entered into the era of regenerative neuroscience," he said.

"And this isn't occurring in shady overseas clinics that are selling things to vulnerable people. This is occurring under the auspices of the most rigorous federal agencies in the world. So the science is real and I feel very hopeful for the future."

Stem cells are the body's building blocks, giving rise to different kinds of cell types. Neural stem cells spawn various types of central nervous system cells, such as those found in the brain and spinal cord. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IN BRIEF

No more appeals for crashed ferry driver

The Supreme Court of Canada announced Thursday that it would not hear the appeal of Karl Lilgert's convictions on two counts of criminal negligence causing death. Lilgert was at the helm of a British Columbia ferry that slammed into an island and sank.

Lilgert was convicted by a jury in 2013 and sentenced to four years for the deaths of Gerald Foisy and Shirley Rosette, who disappeared when the ship went down in March 2006.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RCMP labour violations in Moncton shooting

The RCMP has been charged with four labour code violations related to the shooting deaths of three RCMP officers and the wounding of three others in Moncton.

The police force says in a news release that an Employment and Social Development Canada investigation alleges there were violations of the code relating to the force's equipment, training and supervision.

The police force is considering the charges

THE CANADIAN PRESS



BURUNDI FIGHTING BREAKS OUT IN CAPITAL DURING ATTEMPTED COUP A civilian jumps over a burning barricade of rocks erected by residents to protect themselves from police, in a northern district of the capital Bujumbura, in Burundi, Thursday. Gunfire and explosions rang out in the city as military forces backing an attempted coup against President Pierre Nkurunziza battled it out with forces loyal to the elected leader. ERIK ESBJORNSSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Amtrak engineer under scrutiny in deadly wreck

PHILADELPHIA

Bostian remembers nothing of crash: Lawyer

Brandon Bostian was obsessed with trains while growing up, talked about them constantly and wanted to be an engineer or a conductor.

"He would go on vacation and bring back subway maps," Stefanie McGee, a friend from Tennessee, recalled Thursday.

"He would go places with his family and he would talk about the trains instead of the places."

Bostian's teenage dreams would come true. But now, at 32, the Amtrak engineer has found himself at the very centre of the investigation into the nation's deadliest train

wreck in nearly six years.

He was at the controls of a train that investigators say barrelled into a curve in Philadelphia on Tuesday night at more than 160 kph, or twice the speed limit. Eight people were killed in the derailment and more than 200 injured.

Investigators want to know why the train was going so fast. But Bostian refused to talk to police on Wednesday, authorities said. And investigators with the National Transportation Safety Board said they would give him a day or two to recover from the shock of the accident before talking to him.

Separately, the Philadelphia district attorney's office said it is investigating and will decide whether to bring charges.

Bostian's lawyer, Robert Goggin, told ABC News that his client suffered a concussion in the crash and has "ab-

solutely no recollection whatsoever of the events." Goggin also said Bostian had not been using his cellphone, drinking or using drugs.

He said Bostian's cellphone was off and stored in his bag before the accident, as required. Goggin said that his client "co-operated fully" with police and told them "everything that he knew," immediately consenting to a blood test and surrendering his cellphone.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ CANADIAN DEATH

Wells Fargo said Wednesday that Abid Gilani, a Canadian senior vice-president at the company, was among the victims of Tuesday's crash. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NEPAL EARTHQUAKE

'Our people need shelter,' says Nepalese prime minister

Nepal has been overwhelmed by its second powerful earthquake in less than three weeks, its prime minister said Thursday as he visited this normally placid foothills town, now filling up with frightened villagers desperate for government help.

Thousands of people coming from surrounding areas to seek help crowd the streets of Charikot, the administrative centre of the isolated district hit hardest by Tuesday's magnitude-7.3 quake, which killed at least 110 people and injured more than 2,300. The magnitude-7.8 earthquake that hit April 25 killed more than 8,150 people, injured tens of

"After the first quake, we were not prepared for a second one so big."

Sushil Koirala,
Prime Minister of Nepal

thousands, and left hundreds of thousands homeless.

"After the first quake, we were not prepared for a second one so big," Prime Minister Sushil Koirala told reporters after arriving in Charikot by helicopter.

The coming monsoon rains loom large. "We need tents. Our people need shelter. With the rainy season, it will be difficult for people to survive in the open," he said.

Nearly everyone is too afraid to sleep indoors and aftershocks are keeping people on edge in this town. Food has been handed out occasionally here, but nowhere near enough for the people who keep arriving. Many simply waited at the locked gates of the army's small aid distribution centre, shaking the fence angrily when their frustration got the better of them.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIGRANT CRISIS

Thailand, Malaysia refuse boat people

Rohingya and Bangladeshis abandoned at sea following a crackdown on human traffickers had nowhere to go Thursday after Malaysia turned away two wooden boats crammed with hundreds of hungry people. Thailand, too, made it clear the migrants were not wanted.

"We have been very nice to the people who broke into our

border. We have treated them humanely, but they cannot be flooding our shores like this," said Malaysian Deputy Home Minister Wan Junaidi Jafaar.

Thai Prime Minister Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha said his country couldn't afford to host the refugees.

He had no suggestions as to where they should go, saying:

"No one wants them."

Southeast Asia for years tried to quietly ignore the plight of Myanmar's 1.3 million Rohingya. It's feared that up to 6,000 of the Muslim minority, who are intensely persecuted in Buddhist-majority Myanmar, have boarded ships to flee to other countries and are now stranded at sea.

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Mass spying bill lands in Senate

U.S. SECURITY

Authorization of bulk phone data collection set to expire

After the House's lopsided bipartisan vote to end the National Security Agency's bulk collection of millions of Americans' phone records, the Senate is under considerable pressure to pass a similar measure. If it doesn't, lawmakers risk letting the authority to collect the records expire June 1, along with other important counter-terrorism provisions.

The House bill, known as the USA Freedom Act, would replace bulk collection with a system to search the data held by telephone companies on a case-by-case basis. It passed 338-88.

In the 100-member Senate, however, the legislation faces a 60-vote hurdle to begin debate. A similar bill failed to do so last year after passing the House by a wide margin. And the Senate majority leader,



The National Security Agency campus in Fort Meade, Md. PATRICK SEMANSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Republican Mitch McConnell, has expressed his opposition to the current House bill.

What's different this year, though, is that if Congress doesn't act, three provisions will expire. Not just the law authorizing the bulk collec-

tion of phone records, but also a measure allowing so-called roving wiretaps, which the FBI uses for criminals who frequently switch cellphones. A third provision makes it easier to obtain a warrant to target a "lone wolf" terror suspect

who has no provable links to a terrorist organization.

President Barack Obama supports the House legislation, which is in line with a proposal he made last March.

The issue also has implications for the 2016 presidential

contest, with Republican candidates staking out different positions.

The revelation that the NSA had for years been secretly collecting all records of U.S. landline phone calls was among the most controversial

66

We have a chance to take bipartisan action that protects Americans' civil liberties. It would be irresponsible for us to squander this opportunity.

Senate Minority Leader
Harry Reid

disclosures by Edward Snowden, who in 2013 leaked thousands of secret documents to journalists. He lives in exile in Moscow.

The program collects the number called, along with the date, time and duration of call, but not the content or people's names. It stores the information in an NSA database that a small number of analysts query for matches against the phone numbers of known terrorists abroad, hunting for domestic connections to plots.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. DIPLOMACY

Iran pact no threat: Obama

U.S. President Barack Obama pledged America's "ironclad commitment" to anxious Persian Gulf nations Thursday to help protect their security, pointedly mentioning the potential use of military force and offering assurances that a potential nuclear agreement with Iran would not leave them more vulnerable.

At the close of a rare summit at the presidential retreat at Camp David, Obama said the U.S. would join the Gulf Cooperation Council nations "to deter and confront an external threat to any GCC state's territorial

integrity." The U.S. pledged to bolster its security co-operation with the Gulf on counterterrorism, maritime security, cyber-security and ballistic-missile defence.

"Let me underscore: the United States keeps our commitments," Obama said at a news conference.

Thursday's meeting at Obama's retreat in the Maryland mountains was aimed at quelling the Gulf's fears of U.S.-led nuclear talks with Iraq. Gulf states worry that if Iran wins international sanctions relief,

the influx of cash would embolden what they see as Tehran's aggression in the region.

The president acknowledged those concerns but said the U.S. believes Iran's focus would be on shoring up an economy that has struggled under the sanctions pressure.

Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir said Arab leaders were "assured that the objective is to deny Iran the ability to obtain a nuclear weapon" and that all pathways to such a weapon would be cut off.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. POLITICS

Trade powers bill back at table

U.S. senators of both parties worked Wednesday to revive trade legislation that's a top priority for President Barack Obama, a day after Obama's fellow Democrats repudiated him nearly unanimously on the issue.

Despite intense lobbying by Obama, every Democratic senator except one, Delaware's Tom Carper, voted on Tuesday against moving forward on the legislation to award the president "fast track" authority to negotiate trade deals that can pass Con-

gress without being amended. The vote failed 52-45, falling eight short of the 60 votes needed and dealing a stinging setback to the centerpiece of Obama's second-term economic agenda, his hopes for a landmark pact with Asian nations.

The outcome of Tuesday's Senate vote stunned the Capitol and highlighted Democratic divisions on trade heading into a presidential election year with control of the Senate at stake. Obama says it's essential for U.S. goods and services to have

easier access to other countries in a globalizing economy, while many Democrats and the labour unions that back them still feel the pain of job losses they blame on earlier trade deals and fear more could be yet to come.

The vote also laid bare the strained relations between Obama and Democrats on Capitol Hill, who have spent years complaining of neglect by a president who tends grudgingly, if at all, to the relationship-building aspects of politics.

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IN BRIEF

Honda recalls more cars for airbag problems

A massive new recall from Honda of vehicles with Takata airbags Thursday has brought the total recalls for the potentially deadly devices to more than 33 million.

Honda's recall of 4.89 million vehicles around the world comes a day after Toyota and Nissan announced similar recalls.

In the latest problem, a leak can happen while the vehicle is in use, causing a rupture, and the airbag could explode. The earlier recalls were for exploding airbag inflators.

No North American vehicles are affected by the latest Honda recall.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bombardier cutting 1,750 jobs in Canada, Ireland

Bombardier said Thursday it will cut about 1,750 employees in Montreal, Toronto and Ireland over the coming months because of weak demand for its largest business jets. Up to 1,000 of the lost jobs will be in Montreal, while 480 positions will be eliminated in Toronto and 280 in Belfast.

The cuts will begin in June and continue until the first quarter of 2016.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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FISHERIES GEODUCK FARMING TAKES OFF Zack Crow uses pumped sea water to loosen the muck while harvesting geoducks near Harstine Island, Wash. Last year, the U.S. exported \$74 million US worth of the clams, mostly to China and Hong Kong, where they are served raw as sashimi or added to hotpot dishes. A growing appetite for the unique Pacific Northwest delicacy is prompting shellfish farmers to grow more of the clams along Washington's private tidelands. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taxman raids Uber offices in Montreal

TRANSPORTATION

Investigators looking for documents, official says

Quebec tax authorities have raided two Montreal offices of Uber, the company that offers rides at prices lower than typical cab fares.

About 20 investigators executed search warrants on Thursday seeking tax-related

documents, said Stephane Dion, a spokesman for the province's revenue agency.

"The investigation has been going on for several months," Dion said in an interview.

"At the moment we have 20 investigators on the premises of Uber Canada Inc. The goal is to obtain as much information as possible, and these documents will then be analyzed. After that, we'll be able to determine whether charges will be laid.

"Revenu Québec is responsible for applying tax laws. We

+ UBERX

Montreal and Quebec consider UberX a form of illegal transport. UberX uses a smartphone app to link clients to drivers in privately owned vehicles, without a taxi licence.

have the power to recommend that charges be laid. And they can be accompanied by fines and prison sentences of up to five years if individuals or the

company are found guilty."

Asked for reaction, Uber spokeswoman Susie Heath said in an email that "we look forward to continuing to work with all stakeholders in Quebec to foster innovation, create jobs and provide consumers with much-needed affordable transit options."

The raids were conducted just more than two weeks after the City of Montreal announced it had seized 40 of the company's vehicles since the beginning of the year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CANADA POST

Mayors want in on suit

Montreal-area mayors say they hope to join a lawsuit aimed at overturning Canada's Post's decision to reduce home delivery because they say the Crown corporation is acting arrogantly and refusing to listen to their concerns.

The leaders of Montreal, Laval, Longueuil and surrounding suburbs want to obtain intervenor status in a Federal Court lawsuit filed by the union representing Canada Post employees.

Canada Post's decision was made without consulting municipalities and will hurt large numbers of seniors and people with reduced mobility, the mayors told a news conference.

Montreal Mayor Denis Coderre said cities should be "full partners" with the Crown corporation on plans to modify home-delivery services. He went so far as to threaten to make mail delivery a federal election issue this fall.

Canada Post has said it is committed to moving ahead with its plans to gradually reduce home mail delivery and install community mailboxes despite court challenges and calls for a moratorium by Coderre and other mayors. The corporation says it has no choice but to go that route because of a continuing drop in letter volume.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

900,000

Canada Post last year converted 100,000 addresses that had door-to-door delivery to community mailboxes. In 2015, it plans to convert 900,000 addresses.

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ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

"Fashion may be fickle, but true style frees the mind."

No one looks like Iris Apfel.

The 93-year-old international style icon, to quote one designer, treats fashion as playfully as "a big box of Lego." Her outfits are more properly sculpture.

And like all artists, Apfel's true power is a defiantly individual imagination.

She won't be cowed to fit anyone's standards of style or thought but her own.

Apfel is the subject of *Iris*, a documentary rolling out across the country this month that follows her path from running a textile business with her husband, to interior designer for the White House, to fashion muse.

Despite the love showered on her late in life by fashion royalty after an exhibit of her wardrobe became an international sensation, she's so much more than they are.

She curates fantastical outfits — collisions of colour, patterns and feathers, layers of off-beat jewelry — and radiates freedom from conformity and the power of style as art.

Apfel abhors trends — those lazy directives on how you should look, peddled by brands and magazines for profits. In interviews, she's acerbically un-intellectual about her style and uninterested in defining it.

It's an attitude reminiscent of Katherine Hepburn, the starlet who wore menswear

most of her life. Both exemplify how not to give a damn.

Apfel is a scavenger of flea markets and vintage stores. She detests head-to-toe high fashion and doesn't care what anything costs. She only cares, she's said in interviews, about how it makes her feel.

She speaks of the items of her wardrobe as loves.

"It feels good in my solar plexus," she's said of finding a new piece to add to the hundreds in her collection. "I get a good, warm feeling."

Browsing through photos of Apfel is as much of an adventure as reading Alice in Wonderland; you never know what you might see next.

The same can't be said for many of us. Self-consciousness is the rot in our closets. We're too often lured by the straightjacket of dictated taste.

But it doesn't have to be so. Apfel has no rules about how to dress. Her guide seems to be only the pure joy of self-expression.

And watching her wear whatever the hell she wants sends the message that you, too, can be different.

As one woman once told her, "I learned that if I don't have to dress like everybody else, I do not have to think like everybody else."

Fashion may be fickle, but true style frees the mind.

Happy face/Sad face

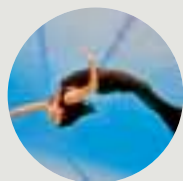
From **babies' babblings** to **benders gone bad**, Metro weighs in on the news making headlines this week



A tail of woe for would-be mermaids

Swimmers are kicking up a fuss in Alberta after community pools banned mermaid fins, citing safety concerns. The trendy costumes bind the legs together tightly, making staying afloat a challenge for weaker swimmers. The province's Lifesaving Society favours a "mermaid test" of swimming ability over an outright ban, while parents say they're the best judge of their aspiring Ariels' skills.

CBC.CA



Police bail out befuddled teens

Two teenage boys in Barrie, Ont. took some unidentified illicit drugs and promptly called 911 on themselves—because they couldn't find their way out of the woods. It was still broad daylight when police and EMS found the 19-year-olds with the help of sniffer dogs. The young men were "extremely disoriented" and "silently staring off into the sky." No charges were laid.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Improving kids' speech as easy as "Hola!"

You can stop teaching your two-year-old Portuguese now — just move him to Brazil. A University of Chicago study found young children who hear more than one language at home become better communicators. Using a specially designed game, researchers learned children from multilingual homes, even if not bilingual, could better understand speakers' meaning than those who only heard their native tongue.

UCHICAGO.EDU



Goldfish get gold star for attention span

Good news! For goldfish, that is. The attention span of the notoriously dim-witted species is now apparently longer than ours. A study of the brains of 2,000 Canadians found the length of time we can focus on one thought has dropped to eight seconds from 12 in the year 2000 — around the time when the Internet started thinking for us. Goldfish can concentrate for nine seconds, swimming circles around us skills-wise. OTTAWA CITIZEN

'FHRITP' is not the free speech cause to fight for

THE KOHLER REPORT

Rebecca Kohler



Acronyms that helped change the world: SCUBA, NAFTA, FHRITP.

For those of you who don't know or were in a coma this week, a group of Toronto soccer fans, including Shawn Simoes, argued with CityNews correspondent Shauna Hunt outside a game over the merits and "hilarity" of yelling "f-k her right in the p-y" at reporters while they try to do their jobs (a "trend" for over two years now). The spontaneous confrontation went viral, and Simoes subsequently lost his six-figure job at Hydro One. Boo her right in the hoo!

Social media has been

hot with FHRITP fever ever since. While most people I know are in favour of the Simoes vitriol, I've been surprised to see a lot of people come not only to his defence but to the defence of FHRITP itself. What gives?

Sentiments include, "It's not sexual harassment because some people yell it at men," as well as, "It's not sexist because it's funny." (This guy went to the Andrew Dice Clay school of feminism.) Politically conservative media personality Ezra Levant asked the totally-missing-the-point question, "Why is it OK for Elizabeth May to use the F-bomb in public, but not these guys?"

Have people never heard of the term "context"? The F-word by itself is not misogynistic or upsetting (except maybe to your

grandma). Follow it with the words "her" and "p-y," and all of a sudden you have what sounds like a command from one person to another to attempt sex on a woman, whether the woman would like that or not.

The confrontation went viral, and Simoes subsequently lost his six-figure job at Hydro One. Boo her right in the hoo!

There's another term for what that is, and it rhymes with "shmexual shmssault."

I mean, if the phrase was "Eat a marshmallow on Sunday!" then this conversation would be pretty boring.

Shauna Hunt would be all, "That guy yelled that I should eat a marshmallow on Sunday!" and we'd all be like, "What a delicious idea!" Everyone would be happy, except diabetics.

But the phrase is "F—k her right in the p-y." Is that sexual harassment? Is it misogynistic? First of all, yes. Second of all, who cares? Why must we define it as such to agree that it shouldn't be socially acceptable to yell it at journalists? This is like fighting for the right to insult your home with asbestos. You have the right to fight for it, but why would you want to?

Rebecca Kohler is a stand-up comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter @becca_kohler

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PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan

OF WHAT USE IS A PHILOSOPHER WHO DOESN'T HURT ANYBODY'S FEELINGS?



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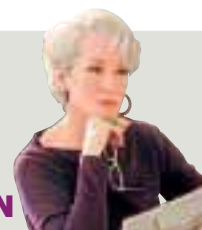
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Your essential daily news

Who's the costume designer? The Devil Wears Prada to be made into stage musical

George Miller's Mad world

MAD MAX: FURY ROAD

Director sees dystopia through lens of a doctor

IN FOCUS

Richard Crouse



George Miller has made pigs talk and penguins tap dance.

He's been a doctor and a film director. Among the bold-faced names on his resumé are the titles Babe: A Pig in the City, The Witches of Eastwick, Happy Feet 1 and 2 and Lorenzo's Oil. One name, however, looms larger than the rest: Mad Max.

Over the course of three films — Mad Max, Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior and Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome — he introduced the world to post-apocalyptic warrior Max Rockatansky, made Mel Gibson a superstar, defined dystopian cinema for a generation or two and created the phrase, "Two men enter, one man leaves."

This weekend, 30 years after the release of the last Mad Max movie, Miller revisits the character in Mad Max: Fury Road, a reboot starring Tom Hardy and Charlize Theron.

The 70-year-old director, who raised money to make the first film by working as an emergency room doctor, says the goal of the new movie was to make it "uniquely familiar."

After years of "following the CG evolution," using comput-

er-generated images to create beautiful animated films, he was keen to go back to "old school" filmmaking "with real cars and real people and real desert."

That means, unlike the Avengers and their ilk, respecting the laws of physics by using practical effects and keeping the action earthbound.

In other words, in a call back to the original films, when a car blows up, it doesn't rocket into space. Instead it explodes spectacularly but organically. The wild action you see in Fury Road are actual stunts performed by stunt men and women and not generated by a clever computer operator in a studio.

"It was like going back to your old hometown and looking at it anew," he says.

Miller reveals he originally created Max's wasteland world while practising medicine.

"I worked for two-and-a-half years in a big city hospital. I stayed registered right up past Mad Max 2: Road Warrior. I never even thought there'd be a career. I stayed as a doctor on the first Mad Max because we kept running out of money in postproduction. Then I stayed through to the second Mad Max because if you are doing stunts, you are obliged to have a doctor on set. There weren't big budgets, so I ended up running a clinic during lunch time tending to cuts, sunburns, scrapes and all that."

Tom Hardy in Mad Max: Fury Road.
CONTRIBUTED



Director George Miller originally financed Mad Max by working as an ER doctor.

LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

His two careers have much in common, he says, adding he was "privileged with a unique point of view as a doctor."

"I don't think I'd be the filmmaker I am unless I had that medical education, in two very direct ways. Both of them have a lot of problem-solving

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Mad Max: Fury Road ★★★★★
Pitch Perfect 2 ★★★
Good Kill ★★★

HOW RATING WORKS

★★★★★ SEE IT
★★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★★ UP TO YOU
★★ SKIP IT
★

in there. But the most important way is that as a doctor you are looking at people

in extremis from many points of view. You look inside of people. You see people during birth and death and so on. Through microscopes — a lens. So you're looking from many, many points of view. That's exactly what you



Of all the beverage containers that weren't recycled, how many were yours?



Charlize Theron runs away with Mad Max: **Fury Road**. JASIN BOLAND/CONTRIBUTED

Not-so-secret feminism in Mad Max: You got a problem with that?

FURY ROAD

Charlize Theron bulldozes her way to the alpha role in Fury Road



Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood

It's taken Australian director George Miller 30 years to bring his iconic post-apocalyptic wanderer, Mad Max, back to the screen. In the super-charged update, Tom Hardy steps in for Mel Gibson — and then just as quickly steps aside for co-star Charlize Theron, who runs away with the film as Imperator Furiosa. And, as Hardy tells us, he's just fine with that.

This isn't your dad's Mad Max

"Mad Max is not actually in the driver's seat in this movie," Hardy says. "It's about time you had better female leads in action movies. This is not a feminist argument, it's a personhood situation. This is how we ought to reflect the times — not so much strong

women, but just people. You know, you have a male and a female who are both just personhood situations on both sides of the gender. I wouldn't put it past George to come up with a transgender (hero), do you know what I mean? He's not the type of person who's going to mince his words."

The apocalypse can be good for a laugh

"There's a sense of humour that George has got, a certain fearlessness in the enjoyment of that post-apocalyptic world, demented fun," Hardy says. "There's not just, like, good versus evil, you know, or 'The Road' or something like that where everything's just like devastatingly bleak, you know? It's a carnival, sort of a circus, sort of Vaudevillian. There is something almost Terry Gilliam-esque, Monty Pythonesque, without banging the gong. There's almost a tongue-in-cheek delirium. Everything is designed as a sort of ghastly, grotesque humour."

The film has a strong feminist streak

"He's a smart man, George, so what he's doing is reflecting the times as well as pioneering at

the same time. He's reading the times, what's going on," Hardy explains. "And it's no surprise to me that he would use a character that is synonymous with Mel Gibson, the silhouette and the icon of Mad Max, to re-establish the world which he started off 30-something years ago, but it's very clear that actually, right down to the shoulder pad on her left arm, (Theron) is the female protagonist of this movie."

Tom is fine with not being the hero of his own movie

"I think that's very, very smart of him to deliver a female lead in Mad Max," Hardy says. "I remember talking to George back in Namibia about old-school movie star, male-female chemistry. How does the dynamic work between a strong alpha-male and a strong alpha-female on screen when you get them together. And I think in this one ... Charlize led this entire movie and it shows on screen and you can see it quite clearly. One has to yield to that. Because if you fight it, you get malletted."

INTERVIEW

Women behind the wheel in George Miller's sequel

The inhospitable desert landscape of Mad Max: Fury Road isn't so different from today's Hollywood: Low on water and overrun by men.

But amid the overflowing testosterone of Fury Road, George Miller's sequel to his post-apocalyptic franchise, Charlize Theron dramatically stands out. While Mad Max may star Tom Hardy as the titular road warrior of Fury Road, it is effectively Theron's film.

She plays Furiosa, a warrior with a shaved head and prosthetic arm, attempting to rescue a harem of wives held captive by

a warlord. "When people first started talking about this film, this loud whisper went around town that George was looking to create a female character that can stand next to Max and carry the journey with him," Theron said in a recent interview.

"For a female actress, that always sounds intriguing. Look, we hear it all the time and very few filmmakers see that through."

Fury Road, which was to receive a premiere at the Cannes Film Festival on Thursday before opening in theatres Friday, is an atypical summer action movie — essentially a two-hour car chase

— that's literally and effectively driven by a strong woman.

Lately, a chorus of actresses has spoken out about what they've called inherent sexism in Hollywood and the lack of quality female roles. Meryl Streep, Carey Mulligan, Kristen Stewart and Patricia Arquette have all recently made strong statements about gender inequality in the industry.

And on Tuesday, the American Civil Liberties Union asked U.S. state and federal agencies to investigate what it claimed is widespread gender discrimination in Hollywood.

"It's crazy that we live in a world, not just in Hollywood, where women get paid less than men for doing the same job," says Theron. "And also just the representation of women in film, it hasn't been that authentic and true. So when something comes along where women are represented in a truthful manner, all of a sudden, people really respond to it. And it's kind of like, 'You guys, this isn't anything new.'"

Channelling some rage into Furiosa came naturally: "There were emotional things that I could connect to."

Some have even described

Fury Road as a feminist film. Vagina Monologues writer Eve Ensler consulted on the movie, working with the actresses playing the enslaved wives.

Theron's commitment to the character is clear enough: she shaved off her blonde hair for the role. "It wasn't that we were trying to hide her as a female," says Theron. "She had to almost disappear in this environment and everybody had to get to a place where they almost forgot that she was a woman. And I just didn't know how to do that with a ponytail."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Riley Keough as Capable in Mad Max: Fury Road.

Banking on Pitch Perfect 2

SEQUELS

Actor makes directorial debut with a cappella comedy

Everyone warned Elizabeth Banks against filming the outdoor concert finale for Pitch Perfect 2. It was June in Baton Rouge, La. It was scorching hot, it was hurricane season, and they would have to build a full, functioning stage and recruit a small town of extras to make it believable.

But Banks knew what she wanted.

"I kept saying, 'I don't care, it's going to look cool, we've got to do it,'" said the actress, producer, and now, feature director.

It took nearly a month to build the Glastonbury Festival-inspired stage. As for the extras, the production sent out an open invitation casting call to fans of Pitch Perfect.

Over 3,000 people showed up. The massive undertaking required four all-night shoots, multiple cameras, elaborate



Elizabeth Banks on the Set of Pitch Perfect 2. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

performances and a tolerance for mysterious bug bites. Banks even took responsibility for the crowd's waning energy.

"At one point, she went out on stage and started whipping them into a frenzy," said Banks' husband and producing partner,

Max Handelman. But the crowd really lost it when she brought a few Bellas out, too.

"It was her connecting the fans with the girls and letting everyone know that this was a big deal," said Handelman.

It's no secret that Pitch Per-

fect has fans to spare. Universal Pictures' modest 2012 comedy about a college capella group (the Bellas) racked up \$113 million worldwide and an additional \$103 million in home video sales.

As plans for a sequel started to take shape, the first film's



I feel that I have more to offer this business and that I was being underused,

Elizabeth Banks, on her directorial debut

director, Jason Moore, signed on to the Tina Fey-Amy Poehler comedy Sisters, and suddenly Pitch Perfect 2 needed a director.

Banks, known for roles in The 40-Year-Old Virgin and The Hunger Games, had been thinking about directing for some time.

She directed plays at the University of Pennsylvania, and had been taking on small projects over the past few years to learn as much as she could.

Plus, as a producer and actor on the first film, Banks already knew the capella world and had the trust of returning cast like Anna Kendrick and Rebel Wilson.

"Right as I was raising my hand to do it, the studio said, 'Why don't you do it?'" she said.

The Bellas, this time, are trying to claw their way back to the top after a high-profile embarrassment.

"I certainly did not plan for my feature directorial debut to be a giant musical," she laughed. But she dove in and endeavored to make everything — costumes, performances and stakes — bigger.

There's even a cameo by Pitch Perfect superfans the Green Bay Packers.

"I knew it would probably change my life. I also knew that I had to say yes. Women just don't get offered these opportunities," said Banks.

For the over four-months-long shoot, Banks relocated to Baton Rouge with her husband and two sons and "lived like a monk." She put in her 12 hours on set, spent as much time with her children as possible, and slept.

"I'm a wonderful multi-tasker ... as are most moms that I know. That helps," she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Q&A

Adam DeVine talks happy accidents and Rebel Wilson



Ned Ehrbar
Metro Life

Adam DeVine didn't initially think much of 2012's Pitch Perfect, which he totally owns up to.

"Just because I'm generally ill-prepared and smoke too much weed, I thought the first movie was a baseball movie when I went to the audition," he remembers. "And then I get there and there's all these super-handsome dudes with abs in their cheeks, and they're all singing."

He managed to wing it well enough to earn the role of Bumper, the first film's sort-of villain, but any antagonism is gone for Pitch Perfect 2, as he explains in an interview with Metro.

Bumper is working as a campus security guard in the sequel. Did you do any ride-alongs to prepare?

Well, the campus security part of the movie isn't that detailed. I basically just wear a T-shirt. I'm not really securing much. You don't delve into that backstory too deeply. But to answer your question, no. Not at all. I did make out with Rebel (Wilson) several



Adam DeVine works some onscreen romance with Rebel Wilson in Pitch Perfect 2. UNIVERSAL PICTURES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

times before just to see how well our lips worked together. That was our ride-along. She's a killer smoocher. That girl has big old full lips, like little pillows.

You have a weirdly detailed Wikipedia page.

When I first moved to L.A. I needed to have a bio, and I hadn't done anything besides a few high school plays and hosting a pep rally or whatever, so I just cut and pasted Denzel Washington's bio as a joke. So it was like, "Adam DeVine, star of Man on Fire and Training Day," and then it said stuff like, "went to Fordham University, studied

at the American Conservatory of Dramatic Arts in San Francisco." Everything else they caught eventually, but somehow the Fordham and American Conservatory stuff have stayed, so people think I'm, like, very well educated.

But the part about you getting hit by a cement truck?

I was hit but by a cement truck when I was a kid, and I couldn't walk for a couple of years. That was a huge turning point in my life. I'm glad it happened because I don't think my parents would've allowed me to move to L.A. when I was 18 to pursue my career.

Los Lonely Boys

THIS WEEKEND!

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BURTON CUMMINGS THEATRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

PLAYING THE GOOD GUY

Surrender to the moment, says Matthias Schoenaerts

The Belgian actor Matthias Schoenaerts (*Rust and Bone*) is on record as loving spontaneity — something that doesn't go with tight pants and forced dancing. Luckily new costume drama *Far from the Madding Crowd* largely takes place outside and deals with complicated emotions. He plays Gabriel, arguably the most lucky suitor of Carey Mulligan's Bathsheba Everdene, Thomas Hardy's fiercely independent protagonist.

Gabriel is a little more accessible than some characters you've played.

Normally I like very ambiguous characters who have a lot of contradictions and a lot of contrasts. And here is this guy who's good, but in the purest sense of the word. He's selfless, he's loyal, he's truthful, he's righteous. It's so rare, and these qualities are so admirable. At the same time that's an extreme challenge. One-dimensional goodness is not interesting. But this kind of goodness, so layered and so emotionally charged — that is something to go on as an actor. I learned a lot from him.

He has this adaptability and sustainability that's pretty disarming.

And even after the reversal of fortune, this guy, he never falls back into complaining, self-pity. He loves this person, even though she hurt him real bad. She broke his heart into pieces. He'll still be the most loyal friend you can imagine, and gives you very honest advice about what you should do. That honesty can be pretty disturbing. But he's never trying to hurt her. He's trying to tell her what is right, and she just can't take it.

Matthias Schoenaerts.

CONTRIBUTED

You've spoken in the past about loving the spontaneity that happens when the camera is rolling.

I never believe there's one right way to do a scene. When you're on set you just have to stay open and find a way to create a scene so that it feels true. There's no such thing as right or wrong; there is a thing called true or fake. That I believe in; that is something I can work with. Because right or wrong — that's an intellectual concept that doesn't fit with what I think art should be about.

What's true and what's fake can always be in flux.

Totally. That's why you have to keep it moving and surrender to the moment. And don't be afraid to be bad. You have to be playful, like a kid. That's what acting should be. MATT

PRIGGE/
METRO IN
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Juno Temple as Fanny in *Far from the Madding Crowd*. CONTRIBUTED

Juno Temple on fate

COSTUME DRAMA

Far from the Madding Crowd actress on not being afraid

Matt Prigge
Metro in New York City

Every English actor has to do period, but Juno Temple has only done a couple, and one of those was Paul W.S. Anderson's renegade action version of *The Three Musketeers*. The new stab at Thomas Hardy's *Far from the Madding Crowd*, starring Carey Mulligan as proto-feminist Bathsheba Everdene, is more traditional, but still modern in many ways. Temple

has the small but key role of Fanny, the fiancée of dashing Sgt. Troy (Tom Sturridge), who winds up destitute after the simple mistake of going to the wrong church on their wedding day.

This isn't a typical English lit costume drama.

It feels pretty timeless, doesn't it? Obviously esthetically it looks like a period film, but at the same time you have such a relatable storyline of an incredibly brilliant woman who is very independent, very brave, feisty and not controlled by men at all.

Another thing is that it takes place largely outside and features a fair amount of dirt.

I was covered in dirt quite a lot of the time. But the costumes were actually so fashionable. They were using the designs and shapes of the

time period, but they could have been in an Alexander McQueen runway show. ... (the corsets) really change the way you hold yourself. It really helps you step into a character from that time.

What was your big in for Fanny?

The body fragility was key, especially while she's pregnant and starving. ... Her body is giving everything to this child, so her life is literally being sucked out of her.

The idea of fortunes turning so quickly is slightly alien to us now.

Circumstances like that are so frustrating because it's out of your control. People always question fate — do you believe in fate or do you believe in coincidence? Some people are like, "Absolutely not. I'm in control of it." Some people

say, "I completely succumb to it." I've got to say I do believe in it.

You have an unusually diverse body of work. How conscious are you of choosing wildly different roles?

I listen to everybody; I learn from everybody I meet. I'm like a sponge. I think it's just important to try different things. I find it exciting to play complex women ... It's important to not be afraid of things that might be difficult or might be new to you. You get to step into the shoes of some f—ing amazing characters that you wouldn't necessarily think about if you weren't in this line of work ... I want to do it till the day I die because I'm never going to be perfect at it. I love the idea of never being so good that you think, "Oh, I already did that." That's so cool.

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Food for the apocalypse

INSPIRED BY

Mad Max ate dog food, but Campbell's soup would do

THE TV DINNER

Jessica Allen



Even post-apocalypse, the question of what's for dinner must loom large.

Except for maybe Max Rockatansky. In the trailer for *Mad Max: Fury Road*, Max, played by Tom Hardy, barely has time to take a washroom break in the desolate desert where oil, water, law and humanity are scarce, let alone muse about lunch.

If he's not driving a tanker, he's trapezing like a Cirque du Soleil performer between them.

Nor does mealtime appear to be on the minds of his co-stars: *Imperator Furiosa*, played by Charlize Theron, is trying to get back to her childhood home-



Columnist Jessica Allen would eat KFC for her last meal (hold the chicken). HANDOUT

land while simultaneously rescuing the five young wives of *Fury Road*'s villain, Immortan Joe, whose horse-like respirator would make having even a cup of coffee taxing.

But how would chefs fair in a dystopia?

Plenty of them have revealed what their last supper would be, if they had the means of orchestrating it. Martin Picard, for ex-

ample, would start with a kilo of caviar accompanied by blinis followed by raw tuna and soy sauce.

It's a question I love hearing answered by chefs, but one I have no interest in responding

to myself, perhaps because I'm embarrassed to admit my last supper would be KFC — hold the chicken, bring on the French fries with sides of gravy and that radioactive-looking coleslaw.

But the trouble with the apoca-



the occasional woodcock.

Hunting and foraging, however, would only last for so long in the world of *Mad Max*, which hasn't been seen on a screen in 30 years. *Fury Road*, which opens on May 15, marks creator and director George Miller's first live-action feature since *Babe 2: Pig in the City*.

In 1981's *Mad Max: The Road Warrior*, which I watched obsessively in my youth, Gibson's Max eats dog food out of a can. Now, that's more like it.

Beyoncé and Jay Z, with their 22-day vegan challenge, would have to adjust.

But I'd be just fine. I'd forage all of the Campbell's bean with bacon I could find.

Coincidentally, it smells exactly like dog food when it's first opened but with the addition of a little water and heat it transforms into a hearty meal. It goes better with a side of grilled cheese but hey, it's the end of the world. I'll take the soup.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*

Now playing



DRAMA
Far From The Madding Crowd
Director: Thomas Vinterberg
Starring: Carey Mulligan, Tom Sturridge

Based on the literary classic by Thomas Hardy, *Far From The Madding Crowd* is the story of independent, beautiful and headstrong Bathsheba Everdene, who attracts three very different suitors.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: Audience:
 84% **76%**



ACTION
Mad Max
Director: George Miller
Starring: Tom Hardy, Charlize Theron

Filmmaker George Miller gears up for another post-apocalyptic action adventure with *Fury Road*, the fourth outing in the *Mad Max* film series. Charlize Theron stars alongside Tom Hardy (Bronson), plus Zoe Kravitz, Adelaide Clemens and Rosie Huntington-Whiteley.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: Audience:
 99% **+98%**



COMEDY
Pitch Perfect 2
Director: Elizabeth Banks
Starring: Anna Kendrick, Rebel Wilson

Surprise hit *Pitch Perfect* gets sequelized in this Universal Pictures production once again scripted by Kay Cannon.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: Audience:
 73% **+97%**

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A zombie flick that's all heart

INTERVIEW

Schwarzenegger talks 'most human story' he's ever done

Matt Prigge
Metro in New York City

With Maggie, Arnold Schwarzenegger is getting something he's not used to: acclaim for his serious acting.

In the zombie drama — not horror film, but an actual drama — he plays Walt, an unusually buff Midwestern dad watching over his teenage daughter (Abigail Breslin), who has been bitten by one of the undead and is gradually turning herself.

It's a rare case where his muscles and brawn won't help, and for the onetime Predator star, that was a real thrill.

Why it's unusual:

"It's the most human story that I've done. It's the most human character that I've played. It's the most human zombie movie that was ever made. I can't even (think of a zombie movie) that focused so much on people and

the dilemma that this man is in. There is baggage that I bring to the movie, being an action hero and all of a sudden I can't overcome this challenge and become very volatile as a character. That appealed to me."

66

There's a certain camaraderie that comes in, where the people behind the camera are as enthusiastic and passionate as you are in front of the camera.

Arnold Schwarzenegger on small-budget movies

Doing drama:

"It is very draining. The brain takes much more energy than the body does.... I remember when I was in the governor's office, I was totally wiped out in the evening. It was the same here. It's tough, but at the same time you're having such a great time doing it. You feel so passionate about the character and the movie is so fun to do. But



Arnold Schwarzenegger is a dad trying to protect his daughter in the zombie drama *Maggie*. CONTRIBUTED

you do get wiped out."

His character's reluctance to let his daughter be taken away:
"Under normal circumstances she should have been quaran-

lined, but as a father you can't let that happen. You can't just send someone to quarantine to get this painful shot and then she dies slowly. I could not let that happen as a dad. Therefore I protect her as much

as I could."

Low budgets

"The Terminator was a small movie. We only had 6½ million dollars. Everyone had to do things way beyond what

they do in a big studio movie. There's a certain camaraderie that comes in, where the people behind the camera are as enthusiastic and passionate as you are in front of the camera."

HARRY SHEARER

Simpsons could be losing iconic voice

An escalating contract dispute suggests that Harry Shearer may be exiting *The Simpsons*, where he has voiced several of its characters since the Fox cartoon series debuted in 1989.

In a pair of Twitter posts on Thursday, Shearer said re-upping with the show would have denied him "what we've always had: the freedom to do other work."

Hours later, Simpsons executive producer Al Jean tweeted, "The show will go on, made by people who love it..." In another post, he resolved to "re-cast if Harry does not return." Yet another tweet



What will become of stupid, sexy Flanders? Harry Shearer, the voice behind *The Simpsons'* mustachioed neighbourino, Mr. Burns, Smithers and dozens of other characters, says he is not returning to the show. PHOTOS: FOX VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

seemed to leave the door open for a rapprochement: "In life I never say never."

Shearer voices characters including Simpsons neighbour Ned Flanders, billionaire Mr. Burns and his kowtowing aide, Smithers.

Fox recently announced picking up *The Simpsons* for two more seasons — its 27th and 28th.

A statement from Jean and fellow Simpsons executive producers James L. Brooks and Matt

Groening said Shearer "was offered the same deal the rest of the cast accepted, and passed."

Shearer did not respond to a request for comment.

The multi-tasking Shearer, 71, has charted a diverse career as an actor, writer, musician and producer, both before and since becoming part of the Simpsons troupe. Also known for his starring role in the 1984 mockumentary classic *This Is Spinal Tap*, as well as for hosting public radio's

weekly *Le Show* for more than 30 years, he recently produced and starred in Nixon's *The One*, portraying President Richard Nixon in a TV dramatization of the secret White House tapes.

Thursday's public acknowledgement of the ongoing dispute, he tweeted, was prompted by word from the lawyer of Simpsons executive producer Brooks that declared, "Show will go on, Harry will not be part of it, wish him the best." Shearer tweeted, "Of course, I wish him the very best."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



UPCOMING PROJECTS

Luc Besson adapting sci-fi comic *Valerian*

Adapted from a long-running science-fiction comic series, *Valerian* will star Dane DeHaan and Cara Delevingne with Luc Besson directing.

Announcing the project with his first tweet, Besson revealed the film's full title as *Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets*. It recalls the second and third major story arcs devised by French cartoonists Pierre Christin and Jean-Claude Mézières, *The City of Shifting Waters* and *Empire of a Thousand Planets*.

A theatrical release is proposed for 2017, coinciding with the comic's 50th anniversary. AFP

Deborah Cox to star in *The Bodyguard* tour

Toronto native Deborah Cox has been tapped to lead a North American tour of *The Bodyguard* next year.

The stage musical based on the 1992 movie starring Whitney Houston and Kevin Costner opened in London in 2012 starring Heather Headley to mixed reviews.

Grammy-nominated Cox has released six albums since 1995, with perhaps her most famous single being *Nobody's Supposed to Be Here*.

She made her Broadway debut in Elton John and Tim Rice's musical *Aida* and most recently starred opposite Constantine Maroulis in a revival of *Jekyll & Hyde*.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cara Delevingne
GETTY IMAGES



Most hated drivers

Do you text and drive? Not only are you likely breaking local traffic laws, but you're also the scourge of fellow drivers, according to Expedia's 2015 Road Rage Report ranking the most infuriating driving behaviours. As we head into the Victoria Day long weekend that unofficially kick-starts the launch of summer and road tripping, here's a breakdown from the report of the biggest driver pet peeves A-F

THE TEXTER 26%

The worst. For the second year in a row, The Texter outranked Tailgaters and Left Lane Hogs by a mile, with more than a quarter (26 per cent) of the 1,000 respondents agreeing that those who dare to text and drive are the worst violators of road etiquette.

THE TAILGATER 13%

Also annoying. Tailgaters, those irritating and dangerous drivers with serious personal space and patience issues, ranked second at 13 per cent, followed closely (pun intended) by The Left Lane Hog (12 per cent), The Crawler, (10 per cent) and The Multitasker, (7 per cent).

PASSENGER PET PEEVES

• **Backseat Drivers.** Passengers, meanwhile, may want to refrain from backseat-driving, cited as the top peeve by more than half (52 per cent) of respondents.

• **Reluctant Co-pilots.** At the other end of the spectrum, the Reluctant Co-pilot — the lazy passenger who leaves all the navigating to the driver and won't open a map — ranked second, followed by the Radio Hog, Snoozer, Shoe Remover, and Snacker.

THE LEFT LANE HOG 12%

THE CRAWLER 10%

THE MULTITASKER 7%

THE DRIFTER 7%

RUDEST DRIVERS

New York drivers appear to have the worst reputation in the U.S., with 42 per cent of respondents naming the city home to the rudest drivers, followed by Los Angeles (32 per cent) and Chicago (18 per cent).

PHOTO: ISTOCK

THE RED LIGHT RACER 1%

THE HONKER 2%

THE UNAPPRECIATIVE 3%

THE SPEEDER 4%

THE SWERVER 5%

THE INCONSIDERATE 6%

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SHOPPERS
DRUG MART



Chantal Doiron (right) leads a bike tour past Notre-Dame Basilica in Montreal. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

IF YOU GO
The Go Bike Montreal Festival runs from May 24 to 31.

Cycling to take over Montreal

QUEBEC

Go Bike festival offers new way to see sights

A city that already carries the distinction of being North America's most bike-friendly city, Montreal puts its love of cycling on display at the end of May each year.

The week-long Go Bike Montreal Festival pays homage to that cycling culture, comprising a number of events

geared toward riders of all experiences and ages.

"Bicycles are now part of the DNA of Montreal," says Joelle Sevigny of Vélo Québec, which organizes the event. "It's quite an amazing experience to discover a city this way. It's quite a blast."

The May 24 to 31 Go Bike festival includes three major rides culminating with the marquee event: the Tour de l'Île de Montreal.

Into its 31st year, the island-wide tour allows riders to explore Montreal with a different route each year, extending through some 22 towns and

boroughs. You can go at your own pace — the tour has a variety of distances for all riders, ranging from 28 kilometres to 100 kilometres.

"It's the first gathering of the season," Sevigny says of the May 31 event. "Some people get out there and do the full route, but the idea is to just get out there and ride."

Several other events throughout the week can help you get warmed up.

Kicking off the event on May 24 is the Metropolitan Challenge, a recreational ride with no podium and no clock. This year's event will trace a

route that begins and ends in Chateauguay, Que., south of Montreal.

For those who prefer cycling under the stars, the Tour la Nuit is a 21-kilometre ride on May 29 and offers a unique, nocturnal experience. It drew 17,000 riders last year.

Sevigny says almost a quarter of the participants at the festival travel at least 40 kilometres to attend and many from even further.

"It's the only place in North America where we have a bike fest," Sevigny says. "The whole province of Quebec is really renowned for its festivals and

this event is very unique to the province."

In general, Montreal's reputation as a cycling tourism hot spot is growing, in part thanks to 600 kilometres of dedicated bike paths and the popular bike share program Bixi.

An Old Montreal bike shop and tour operator chalks it up to tourists wanting to sight-see differently. André Giroux, owner of Ca Roule, offers various rides and tours with themes like architecture, history and gastronomy.

This year, Giroux says he's adding a new street food bike tour to coincide with the recent

arrival of the foodie phenomenon. "Cycling is a new way to take in a city and people are always looking for alternative ways to see a town," Giroux said.

Colder weather doesn't necessarily spell an end to biking season: Sevigny says Montreal touts itself as a four-season biking city and her group has even organized a winter cycling event two years running.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TRAVEL NOTES NEW WESTJET ROUTES, DISASTER DATA AND SEASIDE SPLENDOUR

New domestic WestJet flights

Airline WestJet has spread its wings with a number of new, daily non-stop services in Canada. In the west, these include flights between Calgary and Terrace, B.C., and Calgary and Yellowknife. In the east, there are now flights between Toronto and Gander, N.L. Keep an eye out in mid-July for new flights between Halifax and Sydney, and Halifax and Gander, Deer Lake, and St. John's.

Bucket List: St. Ives, England

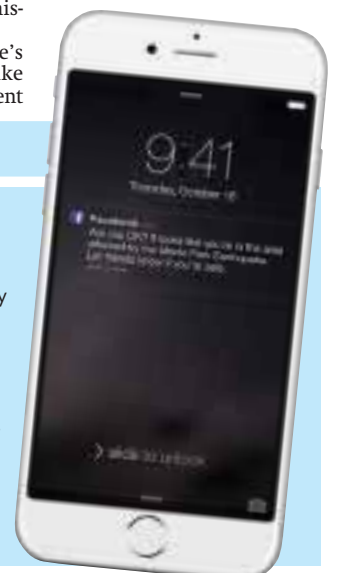
With the Gulf Stream ensuring warm summers, this Cornwall holiday town on the Celtic Sea is consistently voted the best seaside spot in Britain. Find fisherman's cottages, cobblestone streets, coastal footpaths, art galleries — including an outpost of London's Tate Gallery — and golden sand under your feet at four beaches. Take the train. Visit StIves-Cornwall.co.uk.



St. Ives, England, embraces a harbour. CONTRIBUTED

Emergency contact

Both social network Facebook and search giant Google have waded into natural disaster relief in the best way they know how: Facebook's Safety Check notifies you in the event of a natural or humanitarian disaster to ask if you're safe, then informs friends and family; and Google's Person Finder (Google.org/personfinder) lets you search for a data roundup of specific people following a disaster. DOUG WALLACE



St. Lucia defines getaway holiday



ON THE MOVE

Loren Christie

Canadians seem programmed to seek out the Caribbean only when there is snow on the ground but the island of St. Lucia offers compelling reasons to take a summer vacation down south.

BEAUTY

The most recognizable image of St. Lucia is of the picturesque and UNESCO-protected Pitons, a pair of lush volcanic spires rising out of the water on the southwest corner of the island. The hike to the top of Gros Piton is well worth the couple of hours it will take you.

Other areas of the island offer a stunning mix of rain-forest, beach and enough mountainous terrain to ensure jaw-dropping views from every vantage point.

ACTIVITIES

St. Lucia is not considered one of the Caribbean's premiere scuba-diving destinations, but it should be.

A dive to the Lesleen 'M' Wreck with Dive Saint Lucia convinced me of that.

The small ship was deliberately sunk in 1985 and is covered from bow to stern in anemones and colourful fire coral.

As we explored the open cargo holds, schools of electric blue fish poured down the sides of the ship like cascading waterfalls.

Other activities include rock climbing, zip-lining and lathering up in the vol-



Kick back at the Ladera Resort in St. Lucia. PETER REMUS

canic mud baths of Sulphur Springs Park, which is considered a rite of passage for any visitor to the island.

CULTURE

Independent since 1979, the culture of St. Lucia remains a mix of French, British and Creole. The best way to experience it is to put yourself in the path of the friendly locals.

Chat with a vendor over a cup of coffee at the Saturday market in Soufrière or check out Jump Up, a street party complete with music, food and locally made rum that takes place every Friday night in the town of Castries.

HOTELS

The island's hotels have created niches to suit every taste, whether you are traveling solo or as a family.

The stunning Ladera Re-

sort is a couples-only resort, which sets the standard for romantic getaways. With open-air rooms complete with furniture and case goods made by local wood carvers, giant showers tiled with playful mosaics and private plunge pools all uniquely positioned with a view between the Pitons, you can't help but get in the mood.

Rendezvous is another couples-only resort popular with people planning a destination wedding. The resort will make an exception for your single mother-in-law ... if you really want to bring her.

The BodyHoliday is a wellness resort on the northwest side of the island offering everything from massages to complete seven-day overhauls of your body, inside and out.

TRAVEL WAS PROVIDED TO ST. LUCIA BY THE ST. LUCIA TOURIST BOARD



A dive to the Lesleen 'M' Wreck in St. Lucia reveals a world of colour. HENLEY SPIERS/DIVE SAINT LUCIA

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Canada crushes Belarus

HOCKEY

Canucks go to semis for first time in 6 years

After five straight disappointing quarter-final defeats at the world hockey championship, Canada wasted little time ensuring there would not be a sixth early exit.

Defenceman Brent Burns scored just 27 seconds into the game en route to a four-point night, and Canada set the tone early in a dominant 9-0 thrashing of Belarus in a world championship quarter-final Thursday.

WORLDS Quarter-final

9

CANADA

0

BELARUS

“We wanted to start quickly,” said coach Todd McLellan. “We thought that some of the games that the Belarusians won, they were comfortable early.

“Sometimes the plan doesn’t go as laid out, but tonight it did. We scored right on the very first shift, then had some good shifts after that, so we had a chance to push a team back that maybe wasn’t sure of themselves.”

The impressive offensive showing moved Canada into the semifinals for the first time in six years. Canada will next face the Czech Republic on Saturday after the hosts beat



Sidney Crosby battles a pair of Belarus players, including Yevgeni Kovyrshin, left, for the puck in Prague on Thursday.
MARTIN ROSE/GETTY IMAGES

Finland 5-3 in a later quarter-final.

“We had the opportunity to play a very hard game against the Czech team (in the preliminary round),” McLellan said. “Their advantage is playing in this building with their rabid fans behind them and the energy that they bring.”

Burns led Canada with two goals and two assists. Forward Tyler Seguin added three goals

“We got beat by an excellent team that has high skill, great coaching and the ability to win in different ways. Belarus coach Dave Lewis

to move into a tie for the tournament lead with eight, while Ryan O’Reilly scored twice. Tyler Ennis and Jason Spezza also scored.

Canada now has a total of 58 goals over the first eight

team captain Sidney Crosby said. “The important thing is to get better every game, and at this point you’ve got to be at your best. It’s win or go home, so we did a good job today.”

Elsewhere, the United States advanced with a 3-1 win over Switzerland. The Americans will play a semifinal against Russia, which defeated Sweden 5-3. THE CANADIAN PRESS, WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL

Mitchell fined for Holocaust tweets

Defensive lineman Khalif Mitchell has been fined undisclosed amounts by the Canadian Football League and the Montreal Alouettes for inappropriate posts on Twitter, including a link to a Holocaust denial video.

CFL commissioner Jeffrey Orridge said Mitchell violated the league’s social-media policy.

“There is absolutely no place in our league for commentary used to divide or disparage others along the lines of sex, race, religion or sexual orientation,” Orridge said in a statement.

“While we acknowledge that players have a right to hold and express their own opinions, in no circumstance do we condone activity or comments that are derogatory or inappropriate, putting the League’s reputation in question — and we feel Mr. Mitchell’s recent posts on social media have violated these principles.”

Alouettes president and CEO Mark Weightman said the team denounced Mitchell’s online posts.

“His postings are disappointing and in no way reflect the opinions and values of the Montreal Alouettes Football Club,” said Weightman. “His postings were completely unacceptable and the Alouettes apologize to anyone who was offended by them.”

B’nai Brith Canada alerted the Alouettes and the league to a series of tweets sent recently by Mitchell. It said Mitchell’s Twitter feed was “replete with bizarre postings and outlandish conspiracy theories, comparisons of police officers to the Ku Klux Klan and hateful videos denying the Holocaust.” THE CANADIAN PRESS



Khalif Mitchell GETTY IMAGES

DEFLATEGATE

Union urges Goodell to appoint a neutral arbitrator

Tom Brady appealed his four-game suspension for his role in using deflated footballs during the AFC championship game, and the players’ union immediately urged commissioner Roger Goodell to appoint a neutral arbitrator to hear the case.

The expected appeal was filed by the NFL Players Association on Thursday about an hour before the 5 p.m. deadline. The league’s collective bargaining agreement stipu-

+ NICKNAME IS HOT AIR

Team attorney Daniel Goldberg said the “Deflator” nickname used by a ballboy and cited in the discipline was about weight loss, not footballs.

The two employees used the term jokingly to refer to locker-room attendant Jim McNally, who was trying to lose weight, Goldberg said.

lates that it will be decided by commissioner Roger Goodell or a person he designates.

“Given the NFL’s history of

inconsistency and arbitrary decisions in disciplinary matters, it is only fair that a neutral arbitrator hear this appeal,”

the union said in a news release.

The union did not detail specifics of the appeal in its release.

The NFL announced the quarterback’s suspension on Monday, also fining the New England Patriots \$1 million and taking away two draft picks.

Brady’s appeal only deals with the suspension and must be heard within 10 days. The team has not said if it will appeal its penalties before next

Thursday.

League-appointed investigator Ted Wells found that Brady was “at least generally aware” of plans by two team employees to prepare the balls to his liking, below the league-mandated minimum of 12.5 pounds per square inch.

In a 20,000-word rebuttal to the league’s findings published Thursday, a Patriots lawyer disputed the conclusions on matters of science, logic and law.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Manitoba Bisons receiver and Manitoba native Nic Demski will be playing in green this season to the dismay of Bomber fans. CHRIS DCA

Seeing Demski in green will be tough

VIEW FROM THE 300S

Andrew 'Hustler' Paterson



The Winnipeg Blue Bombers went into Tuesday night's CFL draft with a clear No. 1 priority — Canadian talent on the offensive line to protect Drew Willy.

Despite the significant additions of O-linemen Dominic Picard, Stanley Bryant and Mark Dile during the off-season, it was clear the Bombers felt they couldn't afford not to address the line with the second-overall pick.

After Ottawa made UConn offensive lineman Alex Ma-teas the first-overall selection, the Blue Bombers were on the clock and shocked nobody by drafting Calgary OL Sukh Chungh at No.2.

Chungh, a nasty 300-pounder, was exactly the type of player Kyle Walters and Mike O'Shea hoped to get to help up front for years to come. Chungh signed a contract with the Bombers Wednesday morning.

Then things got interest-

ing. Where would Winnipeg native and former Oak Park and Manitoba Bison star Nic Demski end up — and could it be with the hometown Bombers?

Demski, a four time CIS All-Canadian was ranked as a first-round pick and the top receiver in the draft by most. Winnipeg needed a receiver and held the 11th and 15th overall picks in the draft.

Speculation was abound that the Bombers were trying to trade up back into the first round to fill their receiver need and keep Demski at home. Then it happened.

New CFL commissioner Jeffrey Orridge went to the podium and said the words Bomber fans hoped not to hear. "With the sixth pick in the 2015 CFL draft the Saskatchewan Roughriders select Nic Demski, receiver, Manitoba."

The entire football community in the province groaned. The possibility always existed that Demski would not end up a Bomber, but it was a different story when the hated rivals to

the west selected one of the greatest CIS players to ever come out of Manitoba. Anything but green.

The Bombers returned the favour with the 11th pick when they selected Regina native and six-foot-five, 205-pound receiver Addison Richards, who had starred for his hometown Rams in CIS. Richards was the third-ranked pass catcher and 12th-ranked prospect in the draft and set a Regina record last season with 55 catches.

The rivalry between the Bombers and Riders, already the best in the CFL, just got even more interesting. The Winnipeg star begins his CFL career in green while the Regina kid pulls on blue and gold.

Demski and Richards should both go on to productive CFL careers, but will always be compared to each other — especially when Winnipeg and Saskatchewan meet. Both players will begin training camp next month and we look forward to their professional debuts — Saturday June 27 when the Bombers visit the Riders in Regina.



Of all the beverage containers that weren't recycled, how many were yours?

Last year, Manitobans recycled more beverage containers than ever before. Unfortunately, tons of them still ended up in the landfill, not a blue bin. Even a few containers pile up fast, so recycle your empty cans, bottles, cartons, and juice boxes every time.



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OMG: SMARTPLATE, A CONNECTED PLATE TO HELP YOUR DIET

This intelligent plate, currently in development, does the calorie counting for its users, analyzes how quickly they are eating and can even warn them when they surpass their recommended daily intake.

With the World Health Organization (WHO) doing its best to warn that obesity is a real public health epidemic, the SmartPlate, the first intelligent and connected plate that can identify and analyze the food in your plate to determine

its caloric value, couldn't come at a better time.

This prototype, developed by Anthony Ortiz in Philadelphia, is currently seeking financial backing on the global crowdfunding platform Kickstarter.

SmartPlate has the appearance of a traditional plate, but is divided into three sections, each one equipped with a camera. Connected to the internet via WiFi and Bluetooth from the user's Android or iOS smartphone running its free

app, SmartPlate delivers the nutritional information it has collected from various databases.

The microwave-safe plate even comes in different colors.

There are over 35 days left for SmartPlate to reach its \$100,000 goal, the amount deemed necessary for a summer 2016 roll out. The cost of the plate should initially be set at \$200, although according to the current campaign, the price is currently \$99. AFP

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IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is one of the best times of the year for getting things done. Even the smallest effort on your part will yield remarkable results over the next three or four days, so go for it!

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You must be decisive today. You must draw up a plan and follow it through to completion. Deal firmly with those who get in your way. Be ruthless if you have to — there's a lot at stake.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Wherever you go and whatever you do Lady Luck will smile on you today. But don't use that as an excuse to go places or do things that put you at some sort of risk. You may be lucky but you are not invincible.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
The whole world could be against you today and you won't care a bit: in fact you will enjoy being the odd one out. You are looking for a challenge, the kind that no one expects you to win. Watch their faces when you succeed!

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Anything is possible and according to the planets there is one thing you want above all else at the moment. Jupiter in your sign endows you with huge self-belief, so success is all but guaranteed.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You have to tell someone you like something that you know is going to hurt their feelings. Get it over with quickly. One day they will thank you for being so honest.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Whatever challenges come your way today you will deal with them with ease. This is one of those occasions when you need to be pushed to your limits and beyond. And what a Libra needs a Libra gets.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Try to be a bit more assertive today. Let people in positions of power know that you are not the sort of person they can kick around. You don't have to be rude but you do have to stand up for yourself.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Jupiter in the sympathetic sign of Leo means you will make your own decisions and take whatever risks you think are necessary. You won't doubt for a moment that you are doing the right thing. And you are.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
It does not matter that others say something cannot be done — if you want it enough you will find a way to get it. Stop worrying and start looking ahead and planning where you are going to be.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
With Jupiter moving through the partnership area of your chart you need only click your fingers for others to come running. Make the most of it — it won't last.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You will get through so much work today that some people may wonder aloud if you are on some kind of stimulant! You're not, of course, but you are certainly in one of those moods when you feel almost superhuman. Up, up and away!

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

			9			1		6
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RECIPE Chicken Tostadas with Homemade 'Refried' Beans



EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com

@rosereisman



Ready in

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes
Servings: 4

Ingredients

- 4 small corn tacos
- Refried beans**
- 1/2 cup diced onions
- 1 tsp minced garlic
- 1/2 tsp chili powder
- 1 cup canned, drained and rinsed white kidney beans
- 1/3 cup chicken stock
- 1/2 cup medium salsa
- 1 cup thinly sliced cooked chicken breast
- 1 cup shredded lettuce
- 1/2 cup grated old white cheddar or Monterey Jack cheese
- 3/4 cup diced tomatoes
- 2 Tbsp minced onion
- 1 Tbsp chopped cilantro
- 2 tsp vegetable oil

• 1/2 avocado sliced thinly

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 450 F. Line a baking sheet with foil and place tacos overtop.
2. In small skillet, sauté onions, garlic and chili powder for 3 minutes. Add beans and stock, cover and simmer for 5 minutes. Purée beans in food processor. Add more water if too thick. Set aside.
3. Meanwhile, bake tacos for 5 minutes, just until lightly toasted.
4. Divide bean purée over tacos. Add dollops of salsa. Divide chicken, lettuce and cheese over tacos.
5. In a small bowl, combine tomatoes, minced onion, cilantro and oil. Divide over tacos and add garnish with sliced avocado. Serve immediately.

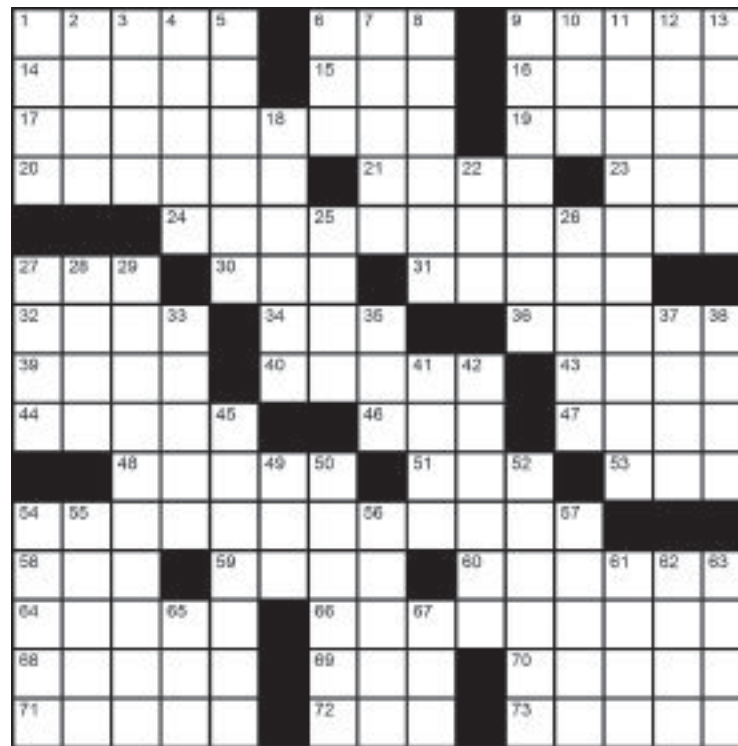
PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Flute, e.g.
6. Understanding utterances
9. Ice cream holders
14. Ten per cent church donation
15. Hound's hooper
16. French singer Ms. Piaf
17. Shoulder decoration, as on a military uniform
19. Cheese-topped chip
20. "___": Fury Road" (2015) starring Charlize Theron
21. Gael, for one
23. Wine aperitif
24. Anna Kendrick's new musical comedy, "___ 2" (2015)
27. ___ Leppard
30. Soft & ___ (Antiperspirant)
31. Hold off
32. Roman love poet
34. Billy Joel's "Just the Way You ___"
36. Hotel's main floor area
39. ___ Coburg-Gotha (Former royal house)
40. 1811 Jane Austen novel, ___ and Sensibility
43. Title lady of Starship's 1986 chart-topper
44. After lunchtime time, e.g.: 2 wds.
46. Mr. Cherry
47. Glance over
48. Wanders



51. Bus driver's path, briefly
53. Brewery container
54. Those who have become sensations on the 'Broadcast Yourself' website: 2 wds.
56. Mr. Cherry
58. Facing [abbr.]
59. One-of-a-kind

60. Just to be on the safe side...: 2 wds.
64. Bit of "O Canada" in French: "Car ton bras sait porter ___ / Il sait porter la croix!"
66. Veronica Tennant or Karen Kain
68. Krispy ___ Doughnuts
69. Anger

70. 18-wheelers
71. ___ Wrap (Kitchen roll)
72. Call for
73. Petulant

DOWN

1. Thingy
2. Palm used for basketry or thatching
3. Dutch city

4. Pound
5. Put down new tiling
6. Be decisive
7. Break free from the egg
8. May ___ (Big time in television ratings)
9. Halifax ___ Library
10. Harem room
11. "How You Re-

- mind Me" band from Hanna, Alberta
12. Strong work ___
13. "SCTV" alum Martin
18. Additional things
22. Allow
25. Wax: French
26. Dental care purchase
27. "I can only ___ much." (I need assistance!)
28. Diana Ross' son married to Ashlee Simpson
29. In-need-of-work real estate listing
33. Bus station
35. Terminate
37. Hillside in Scotland
38. Yin and ___
41. Variety
42. Necessitate
45. Canadian contralto legend Ms. Forrester
49. Entrepreneur's deg.
50. Where Belgrade is the capital
52. Mr. Borgnine
54. Innards of eggs
55. Music for #45-Down
56. Department store chain
57. Loose rock at a cliff's base
61. Focuses
62. Dither
63. Simple
65. ___ Savahl (Culture brand)
67. Albanian currency

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